# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES COMMENT SHEET 1418

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|---|---|---|---|
| **Name of Candidate** | Aranksha Yadav | | |
| **Medium Eng./Hindi** | English | **Registration Number** | 974747 |
| **Center** | | **Date** | |

### INDEX TABLE

| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|---|---|---|
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**Total Marks Obtained:**

**Remarks:**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Contextual Competence**
2. **Content Competence**
3. **Language Competence**
4. **Introduction Competence**
5. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
6. **Conclusion Competence**

**Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:**

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

**5.**

**6.**

**All the Best**

Q1 Article 338 provides for the Constitution of National Commission for Scheduled Castes by the President

Reasons to strengthen

* Despite affirmative action, SCs continue to lag behind the general population
  - A dalit women will live 14.6 yrs lesser than woman from another caste (UN report)
  - Low representation of SCs in higher bureacracy
  - Lack of groundlevel data for specific interventions
  - Untouchability still continues in rural pockets despite Article 17
  - More criminals belong to SCs than their proportion in

population.

- GER at tertiary level continues to be low
- Political empowerment (representation in LS) hasn't led to social and economic empowerment

Way Forward

Reforms like increasing institutional strength through

* giving penal powers
* mandating its report discussion in parliament
* autonomous functioning by reducing role of govt in appointment process

Q2 There is an increasing trend of money and muscle power in Indian politics. ADR report points that 43.5 % of MPs elected in 2019 have criminal cases against them

RPA Act, 1951

Though it provides a legal backing for clean politics, it is hardly enforced.

* Article 123 (3A) disallows asking for votes on the basis of caste, religion etc.
  Yet hardly any MP has action taken against him / her

* Election Commission (Article 324) can stop convicted from contesting elections but not undertrials

* Culture of apathy amongst voters has led to normalization of criminalization

of politics.

Way Forward

* Empowering EC to deregister political parties, fastracking criminal trials against MPs/MLAs, partial state funding in kind (Indrajit Gupta Comm) can be possible solutions

* RPA Act as a law can be effectual only when the institutions that enforce it ~~are~~ are effective & powerful.

Q3 Gram Nyayalayas were established under Gram Nyayayalas act, 2008 to ensure accessible justice at the groundlevel.

Challenges

* lack of Gram Nyayalayas
  - not being set up state govts

* irregular nature of this institution
  - no strictness in schedule, number of sessions, timings etc leading to laxity of procedure

* lack of popularity of this means

* Jurisdictional problems:
  It is allowed jurisdiction in civil and

compoundable criminal cases but grey areas exist.

* Questions of proficiency and upholding legal character
  → often grassroot level justice is plagued with power dynamics * because of influence of locals.

Way Forward

* Strict supervision by district court, adoption of technology in monitoring, disposing cases can be adopted.

प्रश्न संख्या (Question No.)

Q4 Indian executive is often referred to as cabinet form of government due to concentration of power in such groups

~~Ra~~ Other manifestations of 'Alternate Mechanisms' include Empowered group of ministers, secretaries under Govt Business rules 1961

Rationale

* Low number of ~~stakeho~~ participants
  ↓
  faster decision making

* de-politicized nature away from compulsions of electoral politics

* Bureaucratic style →
  efficiency in policy making

* Streamlines policy making
  - avoids fragmentation

* Uses domain knowledge extensively
* Technocratic style of governance

Conclusion

While 'Alternate Mechanisms' are efficient and fast, they bypass parliamentary scrutiny undermining popular sovereignty.

Balance and consultation is key to multistakeholder approach.

प्रश्न संख्या (Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ न लिखें (Don't write anything in this part)

Q5 Bureaucracy is the steel frame of India that enables the functioning and administration of democracy.

* Paradonical nature
Democracy is based on the idea of representation reflecting popular sovereignty whereas bureacracy works behind curtains as professionals

* This leads to essential difference between bureaucratic ~~governance~~ administration and democratic governance

* Democracy involves multiple stakeholders while bureaucracy is often seen as an ivory tower

Complementary nature

Both - democracy and bureacracy are the cogs of the wheel that govern the country.

* Political leaders take decisions with domain expertise from bureaucracy.

* Bureaucracy implements and administers policies

* Bureacracy provides solidity and continuity (fixed term) whereas democracy is based on the principle of change.

Q6 e-governance involves leveraging the digital space to improve service delivery and admin-citizen interface

Empowering citizens
: sites like mygov.in provide data as a public mood enabling better monitoring of funds

* PRAGATI : leverages geo-spatial technology, video conferencing for grievance redressal.
It makes governance more accessible

* e-governance ensures that physical barriers are overcome.
This fosters social inclusivity by including

marginalized sections like SCs, STs in the digital paradigm

* Faster delivery and targetted delivery is expedited.
  example: ordering of AADHAR reprint online

* re-emphasizes the role of consumer/citizen experience

* Enables service delivery through innovative methods
  eg: medicines through drones.

Shillong Declaration has affirmed the centrality of e-governance in ensuring inclusive development.

Technology ought to be leveraged for Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas

प्रश्न संख्या (Question No.)

Q1 NALSA judgement provided with the right to self determination, upholding human dignity and choice

The Transgender Person's Act, 2019 suffers from shortcoming

① Certification by district magistrate dilutes the essence of SC judgement

② Makes self-identification into a judicial process, violating right to privacy (Puttaswamy)

③ Question of consent about sex-reassignment surgeries on trans-gender children is problematic

④ Moreover, inadequate safeguards i.e. less

punishment for the violators as compared to protection provided under other laws.

eg: Assault is punishable 2 months to 6 yrs

whereas in other laws assault against women can lead to life imprisonment

(5c) ~~cs~~

Conclusion

SC Judgement in NALSA 2014 recognized "third gender" but the actualization of their rights has a long way to go

Q8 Health is a holistic idea that harmonizes aspects like social, physical and emotional well being.

UHC through the welfare state apparatus can transform social capital (human resources) to achieving the potential of the demographic dividend

Right to health as FR

* would help giving symbolic significance and centralize health into development discourse
* could lead to health expenditure raising to 2.5% of GDP (National health policy recommendation
* Kerala's example of high HDI due to health

investment and community participation can be ~~sight~~ cited

* when health becomes legal right, state will be obligated to respond and make Article 46 - (raise health standards) a reality

* Will allow approaching the courts in case of violation (Article 32, 226)

Conclusion

Declaring UHC requires a legal mandate backed by political will. Ayushman Bharat is a step in the right direction.

"Health is national wealth"

Q9 India has the largest diaspora amounting to 17.5 million (UN).

The Gulf has a significant proportion

Asset

* Send remmittances amounting to 2.9% of GDP (World Bank report)

* Soft power
Enable projection of Indian national interest and help foster goodwill

* Ease unemployment strain of the government as they do jobs in foreign countries

* help political relations

Challenges

* Most of them engage in unskilled, manual labour

and belong to poor sections of society.
- They are exploited by Kafala system

* Movements for nationalization of workforce in Gulf.
  eg: Saudization rhetoric

* are deprived of citizenship and welfare rights.

* Can cause ~~f~~ foreign relations issues for the nation.
  eg: tension between Gulf countries and India during MRES outbreak.

Conclusion

Harnessing the diaspora for strategic dividends requires balancing of their rights and economic potential. Political relations with Gulf are crucial for India.

प्रश्न संख्या (Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ न लिखें (Don't write anything in this part)

Q10 The World Food programme is a UN organization formed in 1961.

* It's main functions include assuring food and nutrition security in the developing world as well contributing to poverty eradication

* It is funded by government contributions as well as from private sector

* It leverages technology, local governance structures and inter-country co-operation

* It serves around 100 million people in 80 countries

* works as an emergency responder

Contribution to India

* PDS system:
  It is helping India make it more inclusive and accessible by employing automation and e-technology

* has encouraged food fortification

Q11 Civil society groups are an intrinsic part of democracy. The ensure civic participation and generate interest in social work and public welfare.

* Recent incidents involving regulatory crackdown on Amnesty India and the use of FCRA, 2010 to prevent funding of NGOs attracts attention

Shrinking space

* 'Protest and dissent' are important. SC termed 'dissent' as the safety valve of democracy.

* Foreign contributions help build trans-national unity on issues like climate change, poverty, environment protection etc

* NGO and other civil society often hold government accountable by giving voice to the voiceless.
eg: Narmada Bachao Andolan.
↳ amplify voices of marginalized like forest dwellers
↓
deepen democracy and make it inclusive

* Citizen mobilization ensures that those in power rule accordingly to honour popular sovereignty
↳ Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS helped bring in the RTI, Act through their agitation in Rajasthan

The other side

* An IB report comments that often protests against developmental activities are motivated

by foreign interests.
→ Koondakulum protests received money from Western/American donors
→ Such agitations cost us growth in GDP as development activities are halted
→ Funds are often used to further 'political' activities i.e. influence electoral politics

Conclusion

* Balancing the imperatives of dissent and regulatory propriety is key in ensuring civil society groups function to deepen democracy

Q12 The Prime Minister is the head of the Government. His office has become the centre of policy making due to various factors

- Parliament being sidelined
- Brute majority of ruling party in the lower house
- the parliamentary form becoming executive form of of governance

Implications

- Policy making becomes a technical and regulatory exercise. Does not take into account different views due to lack of involvement of MP's of different parties

- Opposition role is diminished
- power is given to non-elected bureacracy subverting popular sovereignty on which our republic is based.
- leads to tension between bureaucratic and democratic models of leadership
- Concentration of power leads to an institution becoming an ivory tower that functions without checks and balances
- Can lead to authoritarianism
- Bureacracy sole control of might mean policy that is out of touch with common man
- Positive sides

- Efficiency in policy making because less stakeholders are involved
- Will bring in policies bereft of populist measures
  eg: farm loan waiver

Conclusion

Guillotine, Ordinance (Article 123), making have further sidelined the role of Parliament in policy making. PMO is primarily a bureacratic office that should aid the legislative process rather than dominating it.

Q13 * Since the 1980s, under the guidance of PN Bhagwati [PILs] became an intrinsic part of judiciary.

* Judiciary has brought in
  - Vishakha guidelines (1998) (women protection)
  - Prakash Singh guidelines (2006) (police reforms)
  - pushing executive to adopt witness protection scheme

Because of these reasons, Judicial activism is seen as encroaching the legislative and executive policy making sphere

Positives

- Judiciary is not bound by electoral politics and can give policy directives without populist pressures

* Pushes reforms in critical areas that haven't been made by legislative due to slow pace and lack of political will

* upholds the interests of the most marginalized

* human rights are given legal meaning → empowerment of citizens

* pro-active judiciary keeps executive on its toes making it more efficient

Negatives

* Policy making is the function of elected representatives as mandated by constitution.

* Separation of Powers (Article 50) is violated

* Judicial overreach reduces faith in parliament as a democratic institute

* Judiciary's directives eg: Prakash Singh guidelines do not translate into reality due to lack of political consensus
↓
undermines effectiveness of judiciary

Conclusion

* NN Palkhevala said that the Judiciary should function as an alarm clock and not a time keeper.

* Judiciary's role as gaurdian of constitution comes foremost and judicial activism to that end is justified as long as it adheres to the limits of separation of powers

Q14 The court plays a central role in the administration of rule of law and justice. It is a democratic institute that carries public faith and requires trust and credibility in the eyes of the citizens

Contempt of courts Act 1971 governs the contempt process. It has come under critique

Positives

* ensures judicial process is smooth and there is no obstruction of justice due to false news
* insures public trust in court of law
* maintains trust in outcomes
* undue criticism lowers ~~credibility~~ credibility

* Right to freedom of speech (Article 19) is balanced with reasonable restrictions
* Malafide speech expressions lowers the dignity of the institute

Negatives of contempt

* goes against democratic spirit of free speech
* Criticism ensures those in power follow rules and do their duty
* Might make judiciary an ivory tower
* will lead to unnecessary prosecution of journalists
* Taking criticism is a sign of strength

* Judiciary is not infallible and should evolve through incorporating and addressing concerns

* Integrity of institution ~~is~~ should not be enforced through silence and secrecy. Openness should be the norm.

Only an open judiciary can adapt with the times & make constructive criticism a strength

Conclusion

Judiciary as a public institution has the responsibility to uphold the ethos of democracy while maintaining institutional integrity. "Truth" as a defense under Contempt Act 1971 is a step in the right direction

Q15 Custodial violence is a spectre that lurks in Indian Policing system. Recently, death of two in Tamil Nadu has brought attention to this issue. Death, rape and violence in police and judicial custody undermines due procedure of law (Article 21) and human dignity

Legal concerns

① Right to life (Article 21) is endangered

② False confessions because of threat of violence

③ lack of access to legal Aid (Article 39A) despite it being recognized as fundamental right

④ Violates international norms (UN Convention against torture), UDHR, ICCPR

(5) Lack of accountability on part of officers ↓ function with impunity

(6) Lack of law against custodial violence

Challenges

* CDS/Lokniti report : A significant number of policemen think violence can be used to extract confession
  * killing people accused of heinous crimes is not wrong

All this leading to culture of 'encounter'
eg : Hyderabad encounter case 'vet'

* Creating attitude change where violence is the norm.

③ ~~separating~~ bringing political will to bring Police Reforms (Prakash Singh guidelines 2006)

Way Forward

① Strict implementation of DK Basu guidelines

② Regular healthcheck up people under custody

③ legal aid accessibility to be increased through ~~domestic~~ district committees and NGOs linkage

④ Increase inspection by NHRC and SHRC

⑤ Use of technology to ensure rules are being followed.

Q16 Civil society participation enhances public participation in the public sphere and makes government responsive

- RTI Act, 2009 was assured in part due to efforts of MKSS that demanded records in Rajasthan
- Access to information empowers and enables citizens to take full membership of political community
- Studies by ADR have pointed towards the trend of increasing criminalization of politics,
- Media coverage of the anti corruption movement in 2011 put pressure on

- fourth pillar

on govt to enact the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act 2013, encouraging oversight of executive/ legislative actions

- Movements like 'Save Western ghats', Narmada Bachao have led to mainstreaming EIA in development discourse

- PUCL used the judicial route that led to recognition of "third" gender, expanding accountability for their development and protection

- Protests after 2012 Delhi gangrape led to the Criminal law Ammendment Act 2013.

Public pressure makes the government responsive to marginalized

community.

civil society acts a check on the powers of the government, ensuring that public good is preserved.

Increased govt - civil society interface (eg: Niti Ayog Portal Darpan) ensures communication that makes govt responsive ensuring accountability and transparency

Q17 India's food stock with FCI is 2.5 times more than required. Our food production has expanded by 6 times since Independence. Yet India has the highest number of stunted and wasted children.

This is the paradox of plenty.

① Solving Hunger issue is multidimensional that covers issues of balanced diet, issues of micronutrient deficiency (or "hidden hunger") and environmental ~~sus~~ sustainability of food production

Suggestions

① Universalizing the PDS to resolve exclusion errors

② Including culturally and regionally specific deficiency

by letting states decide local PDS mix

(3) Including milk - (India largest producer) in ICDS

(4) Strengthening and technologically monitoring Anganwadis to ensure 100% penetration

(5) Rebranding millets as nutri-millets and including them in PDS

(6) Fortification of Rice, wheat, oil etc under FSSAI guidelines

(7) Empowering PRIs and ULBs to identify vulnerable population and ensuring targetted delivery

(8) involving citizen groups like NGOs to increase govt-civil society interface

(9) Local solutions and bottom up approach. eg: Eat Right

Movement of FSSAI should be publicized in conjunction with local authorities

(10) Instituting Grievance Redressal measures at district level

(11) IEC activities at schools, community centres to propagate healthy eating habits (balanced diet) to prevent hidden hunger

Conclusion

To achieve Goal of SDG-2 (zero hunger) and the constitutional promise under Article 48, India needs a comprehensive health management framework

Q18 MNREGA was enacted in 2005. It was done in pursuit of Gandhi's goal of sustaining the village economy

Role of wage employment

→ provides disposable income that provides

income security

- operationalizes right to decent work under ~~DPSP~~ DPSP (Article 41)
- Increased investment in human capital formation i.e. education and health
- psychologically assuring

→ wage employment generates jobs that can help in economic mobility enabling escape from the poverty trap

→ It ensures money in liquid

form can meet immediate needs like hunger.

Hence wage employment is linked to poverty alleviation.

MNREGA -

- This act makes right to work a LEGAL RIGHT
- The state has obligation to provide unskilled work ~~to~~, or pay unemployment allowance
- Scheme is universal in rural areas, regardless of class, caste status
- It is demand based rather than supply based
- concept of household security
  one adult member is gaurantced employment

36848

- Jobcards are issued and Jobs are to be provided within 15 days within 5 km radius
- Social Audit is mandatory
- 50% of works approved to be executed by the Gram Panchayat.

Conclusion

MNREGA aside from providing income security to rural households has also led to creation usable public assets like community health centre, roads etc.

Q19 Increasing confrontation with the ~~drgo~~ ~~drag~~ dragon on one shoulder in the continent (~~Doklam~~ Depsang - 2013, Chumar - 2014, Doklam - 2017), the recent LAC clashes and China's militarization of Indian Ocean through string of pearls strategy, has given India opportunity to recalibrate approach.

Opportunies

Domestic : ⊙ Make India aatmanirbhar in strategic areas.

eg: scheme of bulk drug parks to reduce API dependence

⊙ Protect Indian manufacturing from chinese dumping

⊙ Chinese aggression has provided India ~~an~~ strategic way out of RCEP, safeguarding

domestic industries while protecting from Chinese predatory economics

- Self sufficiency in terms of defence manufacturing and R&D
  - ↳ eg: following Shekatkar committee recommendation
- boosting Indian morale by standing upto China

International sphere

- India is presenting itself as a more reliable source country for relocation of GVCs
- Increasing international co-operation with QUAD countries for balance of power in the subcontinent

↓

contributing to regional credibility i.e. India as a security provider

- India's strategic position in the Indo-pacific can be leveraged for maritime security surveillance
- Using multilateral institutions to challenge and bring to attention chinese aggression

The way India leverages international political opinion and domestic capabilities will prove key to India's superpower aspirations

Q20 Intra-regional trade in South Asia as compared to increased trade connectivity in South-East Asia (through ASEAN) is very less

India should leverage Act-East and Neighbourhood first policy to yield economic and strategic dividends

Opportunities

↳ Ganga-Mekong Cooperation treaty 2000 can increase interconnection with 5 Asean countries

↳ ~~Pak~~ Inland Waterway Protocol signed with Bangladesh can aid in increasing connectivity to the other side of the "chicken neck" (North east).

↳ The connected from Moreh (Myanmar) to Myanmar and Thailand through

trilateral highway is good step forward

* There is a lot of scope to leverage regional institutions like BIMSTEC, BBIN to increase linkages

* ~~Border talks~~ Recent criticism of China, presents India an opportunity to India

* can lead to the development of the region as a whole

Challenges

* Border challenges and national security inhibits SAFTA, 2009 to be fully operationalized

* Trust and stable relations is key to trade connectivity

* India's increasing protectionism might deter economic co-operation

* Cross border terrorism needs to be checked

Way Forward

Developing regional value chains can be beneficial for the region as a whole but requires consensus building amongst stakeholders

Room No. 17

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VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

# ABHYAAS MAINS

## सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2218)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
*Time Allowed: **Three Hours***

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
*Maximum Marks: **250***

### सामान्य अनुदेश

*इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।*

*रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।*

*पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।*

### General Instructions

*This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.*

*For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.*

*On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.*

**(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)**

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 0974747

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Aranksha Yadav

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

21/08/22

## सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)
## GENERAL STUDIES (Paper II)

केंद्र
Centre 03
Bhai Joga Singh Public School

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

| | महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश<br>**उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।** | **Important Instructions**<br>**Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.** |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | (क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें।<br>(ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो। | (a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates.<br>(b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet |
| 2 | अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो। | Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer. |
| 3 | परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें। | Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner. |
| 4 | उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है। | Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated. |
| 5 | उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है। | Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc. |
| 6 | प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें। | Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers. |
| 7 | प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा। | Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated. |
| 8 | यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है। | If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued. |

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| कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु<br>For Official Use | कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु<br>For Official Use |
|---|---|
| परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर<br>Signature of Examiner(s) | |

**प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))**

| प्रश्न सं.<br>Q. No. | अंक<br>Marks | | प्रश्न सं.<br>Q. No.- | अंक<br>Marks | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | 11 | | |
| 2 | | | 12 | | |
| 3 | | | 13 | | |
| 4 | | | 14 | | |
| 5 | | | 15 | | |
| 6 | | | 16 | | |
| 7 | | | 17 | | |
| 8 | | | 18 | | |
| 9 | | | 19 | | |
| 10 | | | 20 | | |
| उप-योग (A)<br>Subtotal (A) | | | उप-योग (B)<br>Subtotal (B) | | |
| सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B) | | | | | |

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INSPIRING INNOVATION

# ABHYAAS MAINS

## सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2218)

| | |
|---|---|
| निर्धारित समय: **तीन** घंटे<br>Time Allowed: **Three** Hours | अधिकतम अंक: **250**<br>Maximum Marks: **250** |

### प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

***कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:***

*कुल **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो **हिंदी** और **अंग्रेजी** दोनों में छपे हैं।*

*सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।*

*प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।*

*प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।*

***प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।***

*प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।*

*प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।*

### QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

***Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.***

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.*

*All questions are compulsory.*

*The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.*

*Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.*

***Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.***

*Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.*

*Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

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# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारतीय संविधान की सातवीं अनुसूची पर पुनर्विचार करने का समय आ गया है? उपयुक्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Do you agree with the view that time has come to revisit the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution? Discuss with suitable arguments. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Article 246 divides subjects into three lists (Union, Concurrent and State) under the 7th schedule.

Time to revisit

YES :

① Emergence of new forms of governance areas that find no mention in current lists
eg cybercrime, disaster management

② Need for collaboration of state and centre in spirit of 'Team India'
→ Sakaria Committee recommended shifting residuary matters to be shifted to concurrent list except taxation

• Division leading to confusion
eg Police under state but criminal laws under concurrent

(3) outdated entries like telegraphs need deletion

(4) demands of more devolution to third tier (73rd and 74th CA)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

No

(1) centralization of power (centre precedence in concurrent list) necessary for uniformity and policy stability

(2) 7th schedule in line with founding father's vision of cooperative federalism

(3) State perspective is already represented in Rajya Sabha

(4) 'Flexible' constitution may lead to subversion of mandate.

Hence, 7th schedule should be revisited (in line with Punchhi, Sarkaria recommendations) without violating 'basic structure' (Kesavanand Bharati 1973 case)

2. न्याय वितरण के लिए ऑनलाइन विवाद समाधान (ODR) तंत्र के लाभों को रेखांकित करते हुए, भारत में इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन से जुड़ी चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Highlighting the advantages of online dispute resolution (ODR) mechanism for justice delivery, discuss the challenges associated with its effective implementation in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Niti Ayog recently released draft paper on ODR. It is the use of ICT to resolve disputes online

ADVANTAGES

1. Reduces burden on courts
   eg 4.7 crore cases pending
2. Saves time and money for the litigants
3. Faster resolution
4. Enhances 'access to justice' (Article 21)
5. Leads to 'digital governance' in line with digital India
   eg filing e-challan online
6. Democratizes access through internet

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

## 1. CHALLENGES

① Digital illiteracy : only 42% women and 62% men have access to internet (NFHS-5) {digital gender divide}

② Urban-rural divide : rural internet penetration is 32.2% while urban areas have 99%

③ Lack of data protection law

④ capacity building and institutional gaps
[eg] 73% courts do not have separate recording room

⑤ Lack of awareness about ADR - alternate dispute redressal

## WAY FORWARD

Increasing awareness, capacity and internet penetration can transform ODR leading to better justice (Article 21)

3. शक्तियों के संवैधानिक विभाजन के बावजूद, केंद्र-राज्य विवाद भारतीय लोकतंत्र की एक चिरस्थायी विशेषता रहे हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite the constitutional division of powers, Centre-state disputes have been a perennial feature of Indian democracy. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The constitution of India ensures the federal spirit by demarcating powers of different levels of governments (7th schedule)

Yet, issues persist

① Use of central agencies for policing despite 'police' being a state subject

eg ① expanding BSF territorial limit to 50 km

② use of CBI & ED
↳ withdrawal of 'general consent' by states

② Fiscal federalism under stress after GST reforms due to low realization of revenue by states

③ Use of [governor] as a

political appointee of the centre (Canadian model)
[eg] T.N governor blocking NEET bill

(4) weaponizing Article 356 - emergency provisions against opposition led govt

(5) Use of constitutional and legal means to curb power of elected govt
[eg] GNCT Delhi Act to give [LG] powers over govt, overruling SC 2018 ruling

(6) Legislating over state areas [eg] Recent amendments to electricity bill

(7) bypassing Rajya Sabha using money bill route
[eg] Aadhaar bill

Balance needs to be sought.
Punchi and Sarkaria Commission recommendations can be employed
centralization leads to blood pressure at centre and anaemia at periphery

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

4. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि लॉबिंग के लिए एक ढांचे को अंगीकृत करना भारत में सहभागी शासन और कारोबार सुगमता को सुदृढ़ करेगा? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that adopting a framework for lobbying will strengthen participative governance and ease of doing business in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India is a democracy in which people have right to expression (Article 19) and can advocate.

LOBBYING implies an organized and professional advocacy.

Need for lobbying framework

① Informal networks already exist

② Ethical guidelines should be provided to prevent pro-cronny behavior and encourage pro-business policy environment.

③ Lead to better market-policy inter-linkage and attract investment

(4) lead to transparency in how policy is formulated

(5) will allow scope for counter-advocacy and participatative governance.

However, certain [safeguards] need to be put in place

(1) curbing Oligopoly and govt-corporate nexus by instituting CCI like body

(2) Bringing lobbying under [RTI] as a public org under Article 2(h) of RPA.

(3) Ensure state Landholding and civil society groups for weaker sections [eg farmers

Lobbying can improve EODB (present rank 63) by improving investor attractiveness. However concerns of 'welfare' of weaker sections needs to be balanced

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

5. सरकारी अनुप्रयोगों के लिए सरकार द्वारा प्रोपराइटरी (निजी स्वामित्व और नियंत्रण वाली) प्रौद्योगिकी के बजाय ओपन स्रोत प्रौद्योगिकी को प्रोत्साहित करने के बावजूद, फ्री एंड ओपन सोर्स सॉफ़्टवेयर (FOSS) और डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्मों की वास्तविक क्षमता का दोहन नहीं हो पाया है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite the government encouraging open source instead of proprietary technology for government applications, the true potential of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) and digital platforms remains unrealized. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

In the spirit of democracy and technological decentralization govt has made COWIN and Arogya setu open source

① It shows great potential for future spinoff effects as well as providing platform

eg UPI platform brought by NPCI crossed 5 billion payment per month

② Nandan Nilekani led ONDC has potential to be UPI like change to alter Amazon - Flipkart monopoly in digital commerce

However, much of potential is unrealized due to:

1. lack of 'data' as a public good
2. No overarching data protection law
3. Lack of emphasis on innovation
4. Missing industry-academia linkage
5. Technology at nascent stage.

However, FOSS can be accelerated through

1. Regulatory sandboxes and incubators for quicker roll-out
2. Integrating IndEA (India open source governance architecture) in all govt programmes
3. Handholding by DPIIT by funding under start up India
4. Use of AI and predictive analysis for course corrections.

FOSS can help realize vision of innovative 'digital India'.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

6. एक सामाजिक सुरक्षा-वाल्व के रूप में, गैर-सरकारी संगठन (NGOs) प्रमुख साधन हो सकते हैं जिनके माध्यम से समुदाय अपनी चिंताओं को व्यक्त करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
As a social safety-valve, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can be the principal vehicles through which communities voice their concerns. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

UN defines NGOs as parts of civil society that aim to further interests of society and encourage good governance

They are [safety valves] in governance

① Articulating critique of negative elements
[eg] Prashant Bhushan NGO for communal harmony
#notin my name campaign

② Criticizing govt policy
[eg] People for Environment NGO campaigning against draft [EIA] rules

③ Ensure 'safety' of all, especially marginalized

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

eg Kudumbshree in Kerala helping in COVID vaccination drive

especially important as a VOICE of communities

① demand for dignity and equal rights by transgenders
eg Sajai Ramachari Andolan by Bezwada Wilson

② Protecting weak and bringing in public domain
eg Kailash Satyarthi Save the children foundation

③ enabling grassroot level reach
eg Aakanksha foundation giving legal aid to tribals
(ARTICLE 39 A.)

Challenges persist
① Overregulation by govt
② FCRA and financial irregularities
③ IB reports may cost 2-3% GDP by protesting

Way Forward
Vijay Kumar committee 'light touch' regulation

7. अपने रोगी केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण के लिए सराहे जाने के बावजूद, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल अधिनियम, 2017 का कार्यान्वयन सुस्त है और विभिन्न मुद्दों से घिरा हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite being lauded for its patient centric approach, the implementation of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, remains sluggish and mired with various issues. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The worsening mental health is called a 'silent pandemic'
MHA, 2017 was a step in right direction

(1) mainstraining 'mental illness' (14% India population inflicted - Lancet)

(2) Removing stigma and increasing access

(3) Integrating within mainstream health discourse (SDG 3)

Its implementation remains sluggish

(1) Lack of awareness amongst doctors and people

(2) No mental health registry as 'one stop solution

(3) Low budgetary allocation towards mental health

(4) Rural - urban as well as class divide in accessing services

(5) Affordability is a big deterrent

(6) Stigmatization and marginalization remain unresolved

(7) Linkage with pandemic and substance abuse needs to be explored

These challenges can be overcome through

(1) Dedicated helpline numbers

(2) integrating mental health and education

eg Manodarpan

(3) Employing gate keeper model (suggested by NIMHANS)

(4) Instituting national and state level mental health commission

To realize SDG 3 holistically, MHA implementation in letter & spirit is lacking

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

8. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर एक शहरी रोजगार गारंटी योजना तैयार करने का समय आ गया है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that time has come to formulate an Urban Employment Guarantee scheme at the national level? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Urban unemployment has been increasing and it further escalated during pandemic.

Experts have suggested urban employment scheme on lines of MNREGA

eg Kerala Alaymkeen scheme (urban employment)

NEED

① Increasing nature of 'informal jobs' and lack of social security (more than 90%)

② Increasing poverty in urban areas

eg 70% of mumbai residents are poor

③ Will lead to creation of capital assets that

will aid in $5 trillion economy

(4) Ensure 'right to city' to poor and marginalized

(5) Increasing unemployment.

However, urban employment schemes at national level need to be complemented

(1) Skill upgradation of workers

[eg PMKVY]

(2) Providing social security through [E shram]

(3) Ensure productive employment

Structural issues of unemployment like skilling, industry demand and state of economy need to be redressed along with livelihood guarantee scheme

'SDG-11' imagines inclusive city and employment guarantee can enable the vision

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

9. हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में भारत की सामरिक आकांक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए एक क्षेत्रीय संगठन के रूप में बिम्सटेक की प्रासंगिकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the relevance of BIMSTEC as a regional organisation to fulfil India's strategic aspirations in the Indian Ocean Region. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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BIMSTEC is a regional organization that came into existence in 1997 via Bangkok declaration

Relevance to India

① Aids India's 'Neighbourhood first policy'

② Other organizations such as SAARC are defunct due to Indo-Pak rivalry

③ Ensures maritime as well as continental reach in line with SAGAR philosophy

④ Operationalizes Gujral

doctrine of foreign relations towards smaller neighbours

(5) Counter Chinese influence in neighbouring countries

(6) Project regional concerns in international forum

(7) India as 'net security provider'

However, BIMSTEC has its limitations.

(1) divergent interests of India's neighbours [eg] Nepal's 'China tilt', ↳ Trans-Himalayan network

(2) Bhutan pulled out of BBIN that enabled regional connectivity

The intra-regional trade remains low whereas BIMSTEC is also hindered by lack of operational & functional capacity.

BIMSTEC has potential for being lynchpin of regional policy.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

10. वर्तमान समय में अपने निकटतम पड़ोसियों के साथ अपने संबंधों के संदर्भ में भारत के लिए गुजराल सिद्धांत की प्रासंगिकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the relevance of the Gujral Doctrine for India with regard to its relations with its immediate neighbours in the present times. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

IK Gujral was a former foreign minister of India who posited India's responsibities as a bigger country towards its neighbours

Relevance today

① Increasing Chinese influence through BRI and debt trap diplomacy
[eg 99 yr lease on Hambantota port in Sri Lanka

② Unique Position in the Indian subcontinent and the Indo-Pacific.
India can be 'net security provider'

ley protecting [SLOCs] and championing regional connectivity

(3) India's growing stature

[eg] leveraging vaccine production for diplomacy

[eg] Vaccine maitri towards neighbours

(4) Soft power production for political good will

[eg] More than $3 bill investment in Afghanistan like Salma Dam, hospitals etc

Gujral doctrine remains relevant but must account for growing Chinese economic power (cheque book diplomacy) and anti-India sentiment

[eg] 'India Out' campaign in Maldives

India must not show 'big brother attitude' and respect country's aspirations to become a (REGIONAL POWER)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

11. भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में "संसद के अधिकारियों" की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनके निष्पक्ष कामकाज के लिए संवैधानिक और वैधानिक प्रावधानों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Highlight the pivotal role of the "Officers of Parliament" in the Indian Parliamentary system. Also, discuss the constitutional and statutory provisions for their impartial functioning. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The functioning of Parliament as the emblem of democracy is enabled by the 'officers of Parliament'

Their role includes:

① Providing secretarial services to the MPs

② enable smooth functioning through timely arrangement, report dissemination and administrative set up.

③ The independence of officers is assured by giving the power to control its procedures to the house (Article 105)

(4) Both Rajya Sabha secretary and Lok Sabha secretary have rank equivalent to the cabinet secretary

Constitutional and statutory provisions

① Office for speaker for upholding democratic ethos and dignity of parliament

② Independent secretariat answerable only to the house provided in the constitution

③ Lok Sabha Rules and Rajya Sabha rules regulate the functioning of the house.

Questions about IMPARTIALITY

① Bureaucratic principles

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

of anonymity put onus for a 'committed bureaucracy'

(2) officers are responsible for giving timely information, reports and other supporting documents for effective law-making

(3) They are recruited independently and are answerable to the house

(4) Security of tenure and safeguards are provided to enable them to work without 'fear or favour'

Hence, officers of Parliament are necessary pillars for the effective functioning of parliament.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

12. वित्त आयोग भारत में राजकोषीय संघवाद को संतुलित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। इस संदर्भ में, 15वें वित्त आयोग द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Finance Commission plays a crucial role in balancing fiscal federalism in India. In this context, examine the recommendations given by the 15th Finance Commission. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The Finance Commission (Article 280) is a quasi judicial body that is lynchpin of fiscal federalism

The 15th FC have various recommendations :

① Devolution of funds to third tier (73rd and 74th CA) should be increased in line with principle of subsidiarity

② Increase scope of own revenue eg inc property collection have a

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(3) Increase 'competitive' federalism instead of laudont approach

(4) Avoid 'fiscal slippage' that threatens sub-national bankruptcies

[eg] Unsustainable debt of Telangana and Punjab

(5) Reigning in populism called by PM Revdi culture

(6) Rationalization of central sector schemes (CSS)

(7) Account for green development and population based incentives

Rationalize GST rates

to make them more equitable for states

(9) Rebalance revenue and capital expenditure to ensure sufficient investment for $5 trillion economy

Centre gives grants under Article 275 of the constitution. However, many are conditional

FC has suggested more non-conditional transfers to enable more innovative and local needs based governance.

Way Forward

To ensure fiscal responsibility, FC suggestions should be heeded

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

13. आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि क्या आदर्श आचार संहिता को वैधानिक समर्थन प्रदान करना भारत में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष निर्वाचनों में योगदान करेगा। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Critically assess whether according statutory backing to the Model Code of Conduct will contribute towards free and fair elections in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Free and Fair elections are recognized as 'basic structure' of the constitution

Election Commission (Article 324) responsible for conduction elections has rooted legal backing to MCC that is as of now just an ethical framework

Arguements for

① will give legal backing to inflict punishment otherwise EC is toothless tiger

(2) create 'respect for law' and check freebies culture and hate speech (section 295A) of IPC

(3) compel political parties to bring reforms in campaigning culture

(4) disqualification because of violation of MCC will deter MPs/MLAs from violating law

(5) Prevent criminalization of politics and politics of criminalization
(ADR : 109% increase from 2009 to 2019 in MPs having serious criminal cases)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(6) Improve public perception about the fairness of electoral outcomes.

Legalizing MCC is not the panacea

(1) Address of violence and corruption needs to be addressed

(2) Attitudinal change among public needs to be brough
(ADR reports politicians with criminal records have double the chances of winning)

(3) EC needs to be provided with independent secretariat

(4) Political parties under RTI

(5) EC needs to be provided with power to disqualify

To uphold constitutional mandate and public trust, wide ranging reforms are needed along with MCC legalization

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

14. डिजिटल क्रांति के कारण बाजार में आए व्यवधान ने डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था में निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए नवीकृत फोकस और परिप्रेक्ष्य को आवश्यक बना दिया है। इस आलोक में, भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) में सुधार की आवश्यकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The market disruption caused by digital revolution warrants renewed focus and perspective to ensure fair competition in the digital economy. In this light, discuss the need to revamp the Competition Commission of India (CCI). (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Increasing internet penetration and its affordability has ushered digital revolution that has disrupted traditional markets

① Rise of GAFA companies (MNCs) at the cost of MSMEs

② Increasing duopoly and oligopoly in sectors

Eg Telecom sector has limited players and most are debt ridden

③ Increasing 'platform' based services that can be exclusionary in nature

Competition Commission of India mandated under the Companies Act 2013 ensures that no anti-competitive techniques are employed by companies.

It needs a [revamp] to address 'Internet-age' challenges

① Skilled manpower with technical skills about technology and company law to deter corporate malpractices

[eg] [Pandora files] reveals use of 'kill switch'

② Power of investigation with independent

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

officers to ensure bidding practices do not threaten 'brick and mortar companies'

(3) deterrence against 'regulatory capture' by increased [policy] making - CCI interface

(4) Learn from international best practices [eg] imbedded economies of East Asian tigers

(5) Power to impose fines for predatory pricing and other anti-competitive acts

(6) Expansion of office at state level to ensure quick resolution of disputes and investigation

An empowered [CCI] can ensure a level playing field for competitive economy

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

15. भारत में एक प्रभावी व्हिसल-ब्लोइंग तंत्र और साथ ही यह सुनिश्चित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है कि सार्वजनिक और निजी दोनों क्षेत्रों में व्हिसल-ब्लोअर्स की सुरक्षा के लिए आवश्यक सुरक्षा उपाय किए जाएं। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

There is an urgent need for effective whistle-blowing mechanisms and ensuring that necessary safeguards for the protection of whistle-blowers are established in both public and private spheres in India. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

whistleblowing is an ethical act of an insider to expose malpractices of organizations

eg Francis Haugen's FB files

India has whistleblower protection scheme implemented by M/o Home Affairs.

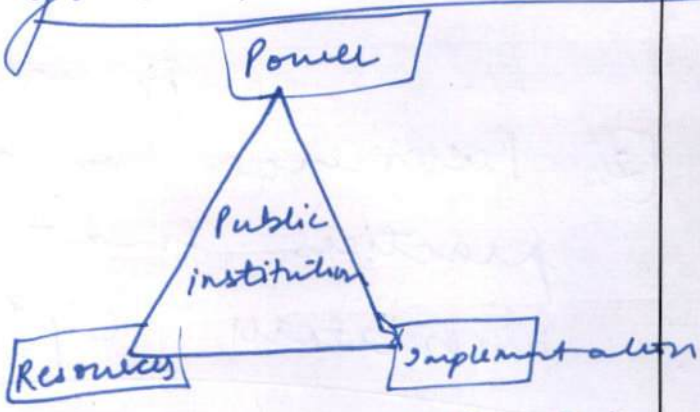
However, more needs to be done

NEED - Public

① To ensure exposure of corruption and enhance accountability of govt actions

eg use of Pegasus spyware on citizens

(2) Uphold integrity of public exchequer and public faith in govt institutions




(3) Enable optimum utilization of resources for public welfare instead of crony capitalism

(4) Create deterrence effect on corrupt officials

(5) Increase 'spirit of service'

(6) provide psychological and physical safety gaurantee

NEED - Private sphere.

(1) Huge scope for abuse of

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

dominant position

Eg Uber files report and Facebook exposure by Frances Haugen

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(2) Prevalence on anti-competitive practices that lead to 'regulatory capture'

(3) Break unholy alliance between business & govt

(4) Private whistleblowing of influential social figures is equally important to ensure social justice and curb unethical exploitation

Eg Baba Ram Rahim

(5) Protection of journalists is foremost to safeguard 'free speech' (Article 19)

whistleblowing framework should be accompanied by strengthening regulatory mechanisms

16. भारत में सहकारी समितियों के खराब प्रदर्शन के कारणों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इनकी कमियों को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए सुधारों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
State the reasons behind the poor performance of cooperatives in India. Also, discuss the reforms undertaken by the government to overcome the shortcomings. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

DPSP 43B upholds the Gandhian vision of promoting cooperatives

Despite many efforts, cooperatives accept a few like AMUL, IFFCO have continued to perform poorly.

The reasons are :

1. Lack of financial literacy among members
2. Low digital penetration
3. Small scale of operations (More than 90% have less than 50 active members)
4. No professional management and organization

(5) limited market exposure.

(6) structural issues such as logistics of cold storage and transportation (logistics cost 14% of GDP)

(7) Cooperatives in sectors where market has reached saturation

Govt has taken multiple reforms:

(1) setting up 'Ministry of cooperation'

(2) Empowering [NABARD] to handhold cooperatives

(3) Enhancing EoDB by schemes such as PM Gati Shakti

(4) Tie ups with APEDA for export promotion and building 'brand India'

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) 97th CA for constitutional recognition

(6) Promoting SHGs and MSMEs through start up India

However, other challenges need to be met

(1) Skewed regional balance
[eg] Maharashtra & Gujarat have more & better cooperatives

(2) Alternatives to 'scale up' and providing skilling of its members

(3) Invest in 'value addition'
[eg] Mega Food Parks
PM Matsya Sampada Yojana

(4) Build Backward and forward linkages

(5) Discourage over-regulation and dual regulation

Cooperatives can be better utilized for empowerment as well as economic growth

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

17. सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी मॉडल का यदि उचित तरीके से दोहन किया जाए, तो इसमें भारत की स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली में विद्यमान अंतराल को पाटने की क्षमता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Public-Private Partnership model, if harnessed properly, has the potential to bridge the gaps in India's healthcare system. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recently, Niti Ayog has put forth the draft paper on PPP in healthcare

There are gaps in healthcare as of present

① low doctor-patient ratio

1:1456

WHO recommends

1:1000

② 80% of government funding goes to primary and secondary healthcare, leaving less for specialization in tertiary sector

③ Rural-urban divide

Rural areas despite having 65% Indian

population have 30% of hospital beds and 20% of doctors

(4) Lack of infrastructure to match India's growing needs.

PPP can complement govt efforts to realize

SDG - 3

(1) Linking pre-existing or new medical colleges to district hospitals increasing number of seats (Niti Ayog suggestion)

(2) Investment in R&D for creating digital health ecosystem by using private expertise

(3) Empanellment of hospitals under Ayushman-Bharat

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

should be levelled up to make private sector partners

(4) Bringing cutting edge technologies. eg Proton cancer centre in Pallis, Chennai

(5) make India hub for medical tourism

(6) Bridge rural-urban divide by giving incentives such as concessional land and tax holidays

Alternate methods of partnership such as revenue sharing model can be explored

PPP hence can complement filling gaps in the healthcare system of 21st century modern India

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

18. यद्यपि नई शिक्षा नीति अपने साथ एक प्रशंसनीय दृष्टिकोण लेकर आई है, इसकी सफलता सरकार की अन्य नीतिगत पहलों के साथ प्रभावी ढंग से एकीकृत होने की इसकी क्षमता पर निर्भर करेगी। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Although the New Education Policy brings with itself a commendable vision, its success will depend on its ability to effectively integrate with the government's other policy initiatives. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The New Education Policy has been brought to bring to fruition 'demographic dividend' of 'New' 21st century India.

Its vision includes

1. New subjects with contemporary relevance (eg AI, robotics)
2. Increasing exposure to vocational training
3. Emphasis on inclusion and diversity

Its SUCCESS lies in synergy with other policy initiatives.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

① Skill - industry mismatch redressal.
(Only 46% of India's graduates are employable)
Skillbuild (Nasscom) is a good initiative

② Foundational literacy is required to upskill for later stages
→ NIPUN scheme

③ Understanding linkages between cognitive development and learning ability (ASER report)
National nutrition mission should redress people's health as 'social capital'

(4) Job opportunities should be developed in emerging areas such as clean energy, green jobs to prevent 'brain drain'

Eg nearly 9 lakh students go abroad to study yearly

(5) To ensure inclusion, women's social and economic powerment is important to stop drop outs from school and low LFPR (25%)

(6) Regional disparity needs to be redressed to ensure empowerment of students from marginalized section

For NEP to succeed, steps in social and economic sphere are equally important

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

19. इंडो-पैसिफिक इकोनॉमिक फ्रेमवर्क फॉर प्रॉस्पेरिटी (IPEF) हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र को वैश्विक आर्थिक विकास का इंजन बनाने की सामूहिक इच्छा से उत्पन्न हुआ है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत की चिंताओं की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is born from a collective desire to make the Indo-Pacific region an engine of global economic growth. Comment. Also, discuss India's concerns in this context. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

USA recently proposed IPEF as an 'economic vision' for the Indo Pacific.

It stems from collective desire for regional integration and inclusive growth

many factor contribute:

① Presence of developing countries like India

② Low intra-regional trade
eg. Saarc members trade is 1% of overall trade

③ Scope for bringing supply chain resilience and re-ordering GVCs

(4) counter Chinese aggressive presence through 9 dash line theory and string of pearls militarization.

(5) It is an economic extension of political blocs like QUAD, AUKUS, and SCRI

(6) It offers alternate to Chinese cheque book and debt trap diplomacy

eg Taking over Hambantota port in Sri Lanka

(7) Secures SLOCs and economic freedom of passage

(8) Encourages effective utilization of EEZ with international cooperation & democratic norms

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India's concerns

(1) USA might highjack IPEF for upholding western economic values that do not suit Indian interests

(2) May lead to rising tensions with China leading to increasing militarization in 'real neighbourhood'

(3) Does not provide 'finance' and is similar to Blue dot network.

(4) Does not fulfill aspiration of developing countries 'offers first world solutions to third world country

(5) Presence of other regional orgs like RCEP and ASEAN might reduce utility.

For India, balancing China economically is importantly, IPEF must be done with political & economic pragmatism

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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20. विस्तृत होते डिजिटल स्पेस और नई एवं उभरती सामरिक प्रौद्योगिकियों की जटिलताओं के बीच भारत को अपनी तकनीकी-कूटनीति (टेक्नो-डिप्लोमेसी) को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए प्राथमिकता वाले क्षेत्रों की पहचान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India needs to identify the priority areas to further its techno-diplomacy amidst the complexities of expanding digital space and New and Emerging Strategic Technologies. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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21st century has opened new avenues for diplomacy. Techno-diplomacy is the order of the day. India must leverage it as a part of its soft power

(1) NEST in M/o Foreign affairs is good step

(2) ensure global leadership in rule setting of new technologies called 'frontier technologies'

(3) Potential to reap beginner advantage

Identifying priority areas must

(1) To

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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# SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK